

For months, national security experts have called for a bipartisan Commission. Yesterday, the Department of Homeland Security former Secretaries from the Bush and Obama administrations—Chertoff, Ridge, Napolitano, Johnson—all called for this Commission.

This Commission is modeled exactly after the gold standard of investigations and recommendations—the 9/11 Commission. It is modeled in the words of how the staff is chosen. It is modeled in the words of getting to the bottom of something and getting something done.

But yet, so many of our colleagues, sadly, on the other side of the aisle are refusing to move on this.

Colleagues, we owe it to the heroic Capitol Police, to the first responders, to the staff members who sat in closets for hours and hours and hours, to the police officer who was called the “n” word 15 times and then sat in the Rotunda and looked at another officer and said: Is this America? We owe it to them that put themselves in harm’s way to protect the Capitol and the sacred democratic process. Inaction is not an option.

And, no, the report we are doing that I am so proud of, with Senator PETERS and Senator PORTMAN and Senator BLUNT, which will come out shortly, is about an immediate response and bills we have to pass and things we have to do and mistakes that were made. It is an important report, and we are proud of our work, but it is no substitute for an 9/11-style Commission, and I implore our colleagues to vote with us to get this done.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, the January 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol remains a dark stain on our Nation’s history. Americans deserve to have all of the facts about that day, and a fair, balanced, and independent Commission will give us those answers.

This Commission would complement the current investigations into this deadly attack, including my Homeland Security Committee’s own investigations in conjunction with the Rules Committee.

After the devastating September 11 terrorist attacks, Congress came together to create a bipartisan independent Commission. January 6 marks a singular event in our Nation’s history, similar to what we experienced on 9/11, and there is simply no logical reason to oppose its creation.

The brave law enforcement officers who stopped this attack and every American who watched in realtime as our free and fair democratic process was attacked deserve answers and accountability for the actions that occurred on January 6.

I urge my colleagues to support this Commission and get the American people the answers that they deserve.

I yield the floor.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 60, H.R. 3233, an act to establish the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex, and for other purposes.

Charles E. Schumer, Jacky Rosen, Patrick J. Leahy, Brian Schatz, Richard J. Durbin, Benjamin L. Cardin, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Christopher A. Coons, Gary C. Peters, Angus S. King, Jr., Sheldon Whitehouse, Christopher Murphy, Chris Van Hollen, Mazie Hirono, Tammy Duckworth, Tina Smith, Ben Ray Lujan.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the motion to proceed to H.R. 3233, an act to establish the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex, and for other purposes, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY) would have voted “nay.”

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 54, nays 35, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 218 Leg.]

YEAS—54

Baldwin	Heinrich	Portman
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Reed
Blumenthal	Hirono	Romney
Booker	Kaine	Rosen
Brown	Kelly	Sanders
Cantwell	King	Sasse
Cardin	Klobuchar	Schatz
Carper	Leahy	Schumer
Casey	Lujan	Shaheen
Cassidy	Manchin	Smith
Collins	Markley	Stabenow
Coons	Menendez	Tester
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Murkowski	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Feinstein	Ossoff	Warren
Gillibrand	Padilla	Whitehouse
Hassan	Peters	Wyden

NAYS—35

Barrasso	Grassley	Moran
Boozman	Hagerty	Paul
Capito	Hawley	Rubio
Cornyn	Hoeben	Scott (FL)
Cotton	Hyde-Smith	Scott (SC)
Cramer	Johnson	Sullivan
Crapo	Kennedy	Thune
Cruz	Lankford	Tillis
Daines	Lee	Tuberville
Ernst	Lummis	Wicker
Fischer	Marshall	Young
Graham	McConnell	

NOT VOTING—11

Blackburn	Inhofe	Shelby
Blunt	Murray	Sinema
Braun	Risch	Toomey
Burr	Rounds	

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO). On this vote, the yeas are 54, the nays are 35.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, the motion is rejected.

The motion was rejected.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to consider the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Anton George Hajjar, of Maryland, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2023.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the cloture motion is withdrawn.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam President, I rise to support the nomination of Anton Hajjar to serve on the Board of Governors of the United States Postal Service. Mr. Hajjar is highly qualified for this position, and his experience with postal unions and legal expertise provides him with the knowledge and skills required of this role. If confirmed, I am confident that he will serve our country well as a member of the USPS Board.

Mr. Hajjar was raised in a working class Brooklyn family and worked as a summer letter carrier, where he learned the ins and outs of mail delivery in his local community. He worked hard in school and became the first in his family to graduate from college, receiving his bachelor’s degree from Fordham University. Before attending Tulane Law School, he worked as a janitor, hospital attendant, U.S. Merchant Marine seaman, taxi driver, and U.S. Custom inspector.

These experiences, along with his upbringing, inspired him to use his law degree to stand up for workers, and he went on to serve as the general counsel for the American Postal Workers Union. His long history with APWU exposed him to a wide array of postal regulatory and legal issues and provided him with important insight into the postal workforce.

Throughout his career, Mr. Hajjar has also demonstrated an abiding commitment to public service. He has worked pro-bono to represent Arab and Muslim Americans in discrimination cases. He volunteers regularly to serve his community in Chevy Chase, MD, including as a member of his church and as an election judge.

His skills and his leadership make him right for this role, but the challenges before him are great. Throughout the tenure of the current Postmaster General, who was installed by the Board of Governors during the previous administration, I have heard from constituents about unacceptable delays and disruptions in mail service. Medication shipments have gone missing, some small businesses cannot get their products to customers, and many customers are getting hit with late fees for bill payments that didn't arrive on time because of mail delivery delays.

Despite unprecedented challenges, the men and women of the USPS have worked tirelessly to deliver the mail. We have seen an incredible outpouring of support for postal workers and the USPS from the American people. But the Board of Governors must restore the public's trust and confidence in the Postal Service. Mr. Hajjar is the right person to help do just that, and I am confident he will be a key player in tackling the Postal Service's current challenges and ensuring that Americans can count on a reliable and sustainable Postal Service for decades to come. I am proud to support his nomination and urge my colleagues to vote for his confirmation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Hajjar nomination?

The nomination was confirmed.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Eric S. Lander, of Massachusetts, to be Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the cloture motion is withdrawn.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Lander nomination?

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motions to reconsider are considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 130.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Julien Xavier Neals, of New Jersey, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 130, Julien Xavier Neals, of New Jersey, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Tina Smith, Sherrod Brown, Jon Ossoff, Alex Padilla, Jacky Rosen, Tammy Duckworth, Brian Schatz, Chris Van Hollen, Catherine Cortez Masto, Robert Menendez, Richard Blumenthal, Patty Murray, Martin Heinrich, Michael F. Bennet, Sheldon Whitehouse.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 127.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Regina M. Rodriguez, of Colorado, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 127, Regina M. Rodriguez, of Colorado, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Tina Smith, Sherrod Brown, Jon Ossoff, Alex Padilla, Jacky Rosen, Tammy Duckworth, Brian Schatz, Chris Van Hollen, Catherine Cortez Masto, Robert Menendez, Richard Blumenthal, Patty Murray, Martin Heinrich, Michael F. Bennet, Sheldon Whitehouse.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

PAYCHECK FAIRNESS ACT—Motion to Proceed

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar 46, H.R. 7.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 7) to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 46, H.R. 7, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes.

Charles E. Schumer, Patty Murray, Tammy Duckworth, Angus S. King, Jr., Elizabeth Warren, Jack Reed, Richard J. Durbin, Maria Cantwell, Bernard Sanders, John Hickenlooper, Benjamin L. Cardin, Tina Smith, Amy Klobuchar, Thomas R. Carper, Mazie Hirono, Richard Blumenthal, Sheldon Whitehouse.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT

Mr. SCHUMER. Finally, I ask unanimous consent that the cloture motions with respect to Executive Calendar Nos. 130 and 127 ripen at 5:30 p.m., Monday, June 7; that the cloture with respect to the motion to proceed to H.R. 7 ripen upon disposition of S. 1260 and the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today, May 28, be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.